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FINANCING OF THE ACTIVITIES ARISING FROM SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 687 (1991): UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVATION MISSION

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Peter MADDENS (Belgium)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991): United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 58th and resumed 64th meetings, on 9 May and 3 June 1996. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/50/SR.58 and 64).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/50/892) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/50/950).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/50/L.47

4. At the resumed 64th meeting, on 3 June, the representative of Bangladesh introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission" (A/C.5/50/L.47), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.47 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Recalling Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991 and 689 (1991) of 9 April 1991, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission and to review the question of its termination or continuation every six months,

Recalling also its resolution 49/245 of 12 July 1995 on the financing of the Mission,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission that are not covered by voluntary contributions are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Expressing its appreciation for the substantial voluntary contributions made to the Mission by the Government of Kuwait and the contributions of other Governments,

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1/ A/50/892.

2/ A/50/950.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Notes the status of contributions to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission as at 21 May 1996, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 22,761,490 United States dollars, representing 11 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending on 30 April 1996, also notes that some 34 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses its continued appreciation for the decision of the Government of Kuwait to defray two thirds of the cost of the Mission, effective 1 November 1993;

3. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full;

5. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

6. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 2/

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission the amount of 21,742,800 dollars gross (19,129,200 dollars net) authorized and apportioned by the General Assembly in paragraph 16 of its resolution 49/245 for the period from 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996;

9. Decides also to appropriate the amount of 52,141,900 dollars gross (50,071,000 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, inclusive of the amount of 1,396,500 dollars for the support account for peace-keeping operations, two-thirds share of this amount, equivalent to 33,380,667 dollars, to be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait, subject to the review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Mission;

10. Decides further, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into consideration the funding through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait of the two-thirds share of the cost of the Mission, equivalent to 33,380,667 dollars, to apportion the amount of 18,761,233 dollars gross (16,690,333 dollars net), representing one third of the cost of the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, to be assessed on Member States at the monthly rate of 1,563,436 dollars gross (1,390,861 dollars net), in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1996 and 1997, as set out in resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and decision 50/471 A of 22 December 1995, subject to the review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Mission;

11. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 2,070,900 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997;

12. Decides also that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 6,917,700 dollars gross (7,816,700 dollars net) for the period ending on 31 October 1993;

13. Decides further that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 6,917,700 dollars gross (7,816,700 dollars net) for the period ending on 31 October 1993 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

14. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

15. Decides to keep the item entitled "Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991): United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission" under review during its fiftieth session.